

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 626)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 - 8x + 36 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(-8) \pm \sqrt{(-8)^2 - 4(1)(36)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-8) \pm \sqrt{64 - 144}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{-80}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{-16 \cdot 5}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{8 \pm 4\sqrt{5}i}{2}$$

$$x = 4 \pm 2\sqrt{5}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $6 - 3i$ and $7 + 4i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$(6 - 3i) \cdot (7 + 4i)$$

$$42 + 24i - 21i - 12i^2$$

$$42 + 24i - 21i + 12$$

$$42 + 12 + 24i - 21i$$

$$54 + 3i$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - 19x + 20$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x + 4)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & -2 & -19 & 20 \\ -4 & & -4 & 24 & -20 \\ \hline & 1 & -6 & 5 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x + 4)(x^2 - 6x + 5)$$

$$f(x) = (x + 4)(x - 1)(x - 5)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 7)^2 \cdot (x + 3)^2 \cdot (x - 2)$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

